

Let Us Read and Understand

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*Reading Comprehension Exercises
for the Third Year of English*

MAMTA AGARWAL



राष्ट्रीय शैक्षिक अनुसंधान और प्रशिक्षण परिषद्
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Foreword

The present day language education in India means teaching the prescribed textbooks in the classroom. The testing is also text based, encouraging the students to mug up the questions and their answers. As a result, most of the youngsters are not able to handle the language as desired. The situation is all the more intense in the English language. The students are not even able to comprehend properly what they read. This publication seeks to remedy this problem by providing a variety of reading texts complete with comprehension exercises for the young children. It is hoped that these will not only provide them an enjoyable learning experience but also take the load of memorizing for the examination off their heads as they are not to be tested. Moreover, the publication will provide the teachers of English the much required readymade material appropriate to the level of students.

This publication is an unmistakable evidence of the ingenuity of the teachers of English who have contributed to its development. I thank all of them as also Dr Manita Agarwal for all her efforts in making this publication possible.

J.S RAJPUT

Director

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Preface

English language occupies a unique status in the social, educational and administrative set up of our country. It is the language of administration, law and judiciary, and medium of instruction in higher education. It is also our effective national and international link language. A common educated person considers English a prerequisite for a good job and better prospects in life. It is for this reason that many state-run schools in the country have started English from primary classes.

One of the purposes of teaching English is to make the students proficient in reading skills so that they can comprehend a variety of texts which they encounter in real life situation. For this purpose, a teacher needs a variety of reading comprehension exercises. This book is intended to provide the English teachers with such exercises for use in the classroom so as to improve the students reading skills. The wide variety of reading texts and exercises presented in the publication will positively prove to be educative both to the students and the teachers of English besides being enjoyable.

The publication could not have become a possibility without the active contribution of a large number of English teachers whose names have been listed in the acknowledgements. We are thankful to one and all of them.

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Introduction

'Let Us Read and Understand' is a book of reading comprehension exercises intended for use in the third year of English.

In our Indian school set up it is seen that the ability of reading comprehension is not developed in the student to the desired extent because of over-emphasis on the teaching of the prescribed textbook. The lessons from the textbook are discussed thoroughly in the class by the teacher and the students memorise the contents of these lessons, sometimes even without understanding them. In the examinations too questions are asked from these lessons and the students reproduce the memorised answers. Such questions do not give a true picture of the student's ability to comprehend the language material on his own as they only test his knowledge of the content or his memory. The use of an unseen passage is the best way to ensure the validity and reliability of a comprehension test because it makes the student comprehend the reading material in the test situation. The language teaching experts also think highly of the unseen passage not only as a device for testing but also for developing comprehension ability. Now-a-days, with the communicative approach to teaching English, many schools in the country have understood the importance of unseen passages and have started using them in their teaching and testing of English language. But there is a great dearth of suitable comprehension pieces with appropriate exercises which can be given to the students for practice and for testing their reading comprehension ability. It is easy to find topics for composition and passages for dictation but not so easy to develop good comprehension exercises. Even to find a suitable passage

and adapt it for the needs of a particular level is a fully qualified teacher after he has done with his stable teaching and counselling of the case heads.

Form of the Book

The Book contains 12 chapters covering comprehensive coverage of content areas for the use of students, who are in the third level of learning (high school) only. A large number of exercises are based on unseen passages. However, there are also some cloze exercises, word class exercises, identifying facts, maps/plans, set of instructions, and also a few paper reports/dictionary etc. along with some exercises on visual material.

Questions of various varieties have been used in the exercises. There are multiple choice questions, true/false questions, matching type questions, fill in the blanks questions, close completion questions, crossword puzzles, filling the tables, very short answer type questions, copying one word to one sentence answers and also a few short answer questions which can be answered in one or two sentences. Care has been taken to frame the questions in such a way that minimum writing is required so that the focus is on the ability to comprehend. If these exercises are used as tests, the objective type questions i.e. the multiple choice, true/false type and matching type may be allotted 1 mark each. The range of marks for very short answer questions (fill in the blanks, heading type, close completion type, crossword puzzle) may be from 1/2 to 1. Short answer questions may be allotted 2 to 3 marks depending on the length of the answer required and the complexity involved.

The material presented here is of general nature suitable for children belonging to the age group of 12 to 16 years. The passages cover various themes from science, history, geography, biography, literature, society, nature, etc.

Scope of the Comprehension Tests

Comprehension is the ability whereby a student understands what is being communicated. Comprehension is essentially the act of grasping the main facts and ideas in a communication, grasping them in proper order and discerning the relationships.

The exercises including the visual material presented in this book are designed to develop the ability to read for plain sense information, for interpretation, for inference, and for critical thinking. The questions given for developing comprehension involve the following kinds of specific objectives :

- ☐ grasping the meaning of words, phrases and sentences from the context
- ☐ grasping the ideas conveyed in the passage
- ☐ locating key words, phrases and sentences in the passage
- ☐ locating important facts and ideas.
- ☐ identifying relationships between objects, ideas, events, facts, characters etc.
- ☐ following the sequence of ideas, facts, etc.
- ☐ comparing objects, ideas, events, facts, characters etc.
- ☐ distinguishing between related words and ideas.
- ☐ interpreting ideas, events, traits of character etc.
- ☐ inferring meaning, ideas and messages in the passage.
- ☐ inferring the mood of the author or character.
- ☐ getting at the central idea of a piece.
- ☐ evaluating events, actions, ideas, feelings, views etc.

Purpose of the Book

The Exercises contained in this book will serve the following purposes

1. Each exercise may be used as a classroom exercises for developing basic comprehension abilities in the students
2. These exercises will help the teacher in getting the feed back about the strengths and weaknesses of the students so that suitable measures could be taken to improve their learning
3. The questions presented in these exercises will work as samples of different varieties of questions that can be prepared for testing the pupil achievement in reading comprehension

The Level of the Book

In the earlier exercises 'Let Us Read and Understand' assumes the formal ability to read at the plain sense information level, the knowledge of basic vocabulary of common, relevant words, and the ability to understand and use common set of structures and structural words related to basic notions and functions of language. As the book progresses, the passages in terms of content and language, and the questions in terms of language, form, conceptual depth and strategy required, become more demanding.

It is hoped that this book will help teachers *not* only in improving and monitoring the reading ability of children but also in developing similar exercises of their own.

1. Subbu

Subbu was a young man and he lived in a village with his mother. The people of that village used to call him 'Simple Subbu'.

His mother told him one day, "Look into the mirror, Subbu. See how much you look like a bear. Why can't you take care of yourself? Please go and have a good shave. It is a long time since you visited the barber," and she gave him ten rupees.

Questions

A. Choose the correct answer.

1. A barber is
 - A. one who cuts hair
 - B. one who makes hair styles
 - C. one who sells meat
2. The most suitable title for the passage would be
 - A. The Bear
 - B. Subbu's Mother
 - C. Simple Subbu

B. Match the following :

- | A | B |
|-----------|------------|
| 3. loving | (a) bear |
| 4. ten | (b) mother |
| 5. hairy | (c) rupees |

C. Fill in the blanks with words from the passage

6. We should _____ of our health.
7. I _____ the Taj Mahal during my summer holidays.
8. When I comb my hair, I look into the _____

D. Answer the following questions.

9. Who was Subbur?
10. Who did he live with?
11. Why did his mother give him the money?
12. Why did she say he looked like a bear?

2. Rancho at School

Fill in the blanks in the passage with the words given below

One day Rancho, a monkey, saw some children going into a school building. You know a _____¹ likes to do what he sees others doing. So Rancho went in with the _____². They sat down in their _____³. Rancho too sat down with them. The students took out their book from their bags. He saw a _____⁴ lying near him and he _____⁵ it up. The children now turned over the _____⁶ of their books to _____⁷. Rancho too did the _____⁸. This made the children _____⁹. Just then the teacher came in and Rancho _____¹⁰ out of the window.

pages	jumped	monkey	book
children	same	picked	read
chairs	laugh		

3. Jumble Tumble

Here is a story. The sentences have been jumbled up.
Put them in proper order.

Mohan was going to school.

He picked up the purse and opened it.

"Is this yours?" asked Mohan.

There was a hundred rupee note in it.

"It's not my money", Mohan said to himself.

Mohan gave back the purse to him.

He thought of keeping it with him.

The old man was looking for something.

The old man thanked him.

On the way, he found a purse lying on the road.

Just then an old man passed by.

The old man said "Yes."

4. Pingu

Pingu was a small penguin. He was very naughty. Last Sunday, Pingu, his mother and his father were having breakfast together. Pingu suddenly pulled the table cloth away. All the food fell down. The plates and glasses crashed on to the floor and were smashed into pieces. The floor became dirty. Pingu's mother was very angry. She beat Pingu. His father was also very angry. He shouted at Pingu. Pingu cried and ran out of the house. He hid in the garden. He thought to himself, "It is not good to be naughty. I won't be naughty again."

Questions

A. Choose the correct answer

1. Which of the following shows Pingu's naughtiness?
 - A. Pingu pulled the table cloth
 - B. The food fell down
 - C. The glasses and plates broke
 - D. The floor became dirty
2. 'Were smashed into pieces' means .
 - A. fell
 - B. crashed
 - C. broke
 - D. crushed
3. After his mischief, Pingu's parents
 - A. shouted at him
 - B. beat him
 - C. were angry with him
 - D. sent him out of the house

4. Pingu cried because
 - A. He was naughty.
 - B. His parents were angry with him.
 - C. He hid in the garden.
 - D. The plates and glasses broke.
5. The best title for this passage would be :
 - A. Naughty Pingu
 - B. Pingu Enjoys
 - C. Pingu in the Garden
 - D. Obedient Pingu

B. Fill in the blanks

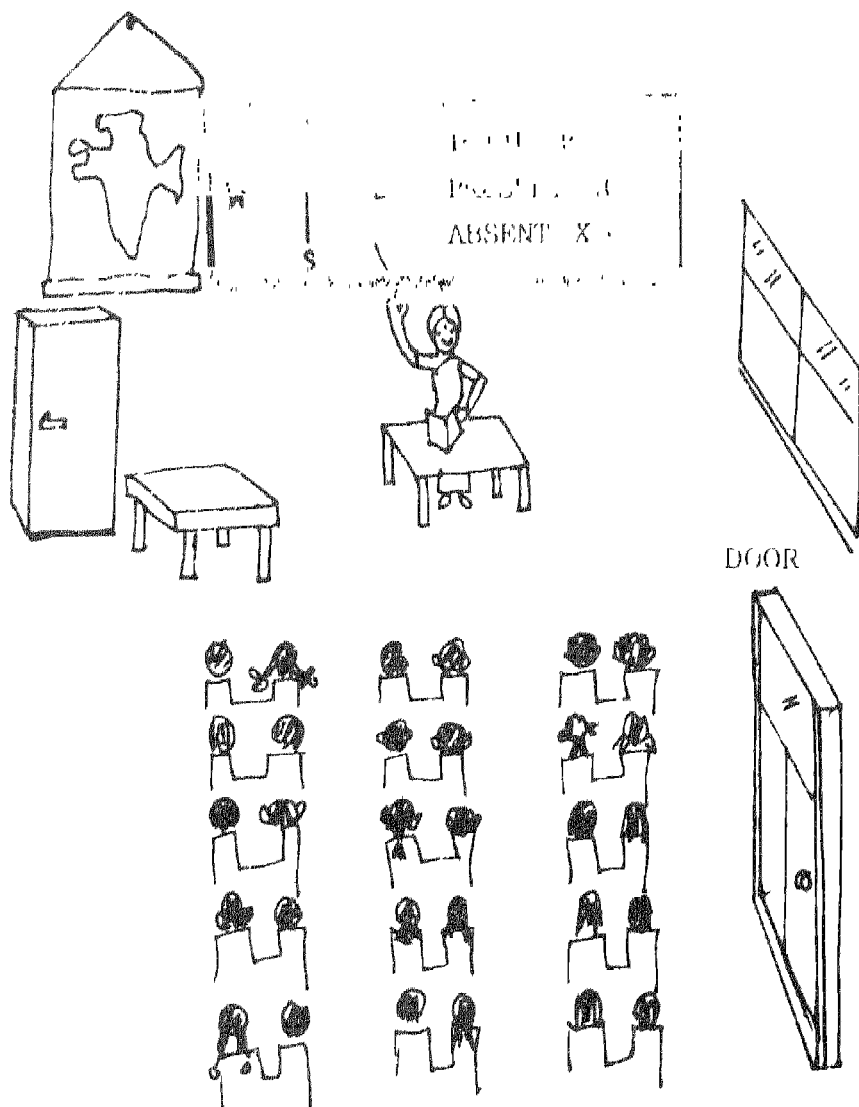
6. Pingu was a naughty little _____.
7. Last Sunday Pingu showed his naughtiness at the time of _____.
8. The food fell on the _____.
9. The _____ and _____ broke into pieces.
10. Pingu was eating breakfast with his _____ and _____.
11. Pingu went out of the _____ into the _____.

C. Answer the following questions :

12. What two things happened when Pingu pulled away the table cloth?
13. What did Pingu's mother do when the food fell down?
14. How did Pingu's father show his anger?
15. What did Pingu do when his parents were angry with him?
16. What did Pingu promise himself?

5. My Classroom

Look at the following picture. Then answer the questions



Classroom

A The teacher in the classroom is facing south. Now look at the picture carefully and fill in the blanks.

1. The children are facing towards the _____.
2. The door is towards the _____.
3. The table is to _____ of the cupboard.
4. The blackboard is in the _____.
5. The window is to the _____ of the door.
6. The map is hanging to the _____ of the board.

B Write True or False against the statements.

7. There are five rows of desks in the class. ()
8. The teacher is holding the stick in her right hand. ()
9. The map is hanging on the board. ()
10. Six children are absent. ()
11. The cupboard is next to the table. ()
12. There are two double windows in the classroom. ()

6. Bubble Trouble

Sometimes you must have enjoyed chewing a bubble-gum. Have you ever made a bubble with it? See how large a bubble you can make before it bursts. As you all know, bubbles are filled with air. Have you ever seen soapy bubbles? This is how you can make them.

- STEP ONE Take a bowl of soap water and a little pipe.
- STEP TWO Dip the pipe into the bowl and blow gently.
- STEP THREE Lift up your pipe and blow a bubble. Hurray! a see the bubbles float in the air until they burst.

Questions

A. Choose the correct answer.

1. Bubbles are filled with
 - A. water
 - B. air
 - C. soap
2. A bubble can burst when
 - A. it grows too large
 - B. it becomes soft
 - C. it becomes round
3. To make soapy bubbles you need
 - A. a bowl and soap
 - B. a bowl of water and a pipe
 - C. a bowl of soapy water and a pipe

4. Soapy bubbles can
A. fly in the air
B. float in the air
C. float on water
5. Bubbles in the air
A. always burst
B. never burst
C. sometimes burst

B. Write the word from the passage which means :

6. full of soap
7. fill air into
8. break
9. held up in the air

C. Circle the right word

10. You (chew/swallow) bubble-gum before you can blow it into bubbles
11. To make soapy bubbles you need (soap/soapy water)
12. To blow soapy bubbles you have to blow (softly/hard) through the pipe
13. The soapy bubbles first (float/burst) in the air and then (float/burst)

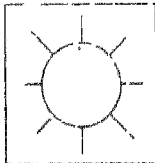
D. From the passage give the opposite of :

14. small
15. quick
16. drop
17. harshly

7. Weather Report

Here is a weather report from a newspaper dated 6 November 1999, Saturday. Read it and answer the questions.

WINTER WEATHER



FORECAST - Mist in the morning. Mainly clear sky. Not much change in high temperature.

TEMPERATURE - Maximum temperature on Friday 27.6 degrees C (minus 4) and the minimum 16.1 degrees C (zero).

Maximum relative humidity on Friday 96 per cent and the minimum 56 per cent.

Sunset (Saturday)	5:36 p.m.
Sunrise (Sunday)	6:34 a.m.
Moonset (Saturday)	6:29 p.m.
Moonrise (Sunday)	9:02 a.m.

• Detailed national and international weather on page 2.

Questions

A. Choose the correct answer.

1. There will be mist in the

- A. morning
- B. evening
- C. afternoon

2. The sky will be mainly
 - A. cloudy
 - B. clear
 - C. foggy
3. The maximum temperature will be
 - A. 10 °C
 - B. more
 - C. not much

4. Choose the correct answer.

4. What was the maximum temperature on Friday?
(27 °C / 16 °C)
5. What was the minimum temperature on Friday?
(27 °C / 16 °C)
6. What is the scale used to measure the temperature?
(Fahrenheit / Celsius)
7. What kind of day will Saturday be? (cloudy / sunny)

5. Answer in one word only.

8. What has been shown in the picture? _____
9. Minutes, the time for Moonrise on Sunday: _____
10. What will be time for Moonset on Saturday? _____

6. Pick up words from the passage to fill in the blanks.

11. Detailed national and international weather can be seen on _____
12. The time for sunset on Saturday is _____
13. The time for sunrise on Sunday is _____

7. Choose words from the passage which mean

14. fog
15. heat and moisture in the air

8. Neera and the Parrot

Read the following passage carefully. Below the passage three words are given for each blank. Fill in the blanks choosing the correct words.

Gopu and Neera are brother and _____. One day their grandfather _____ a parrot. Gopu put it in a _____ box. The parrot cried, "tain, tain." Neera _____ running. She put a piece of _____ in the cage. The parrot did not eat it. Neera gave water _____ the parrot. The parrot did not _____ it. It went on screeching _____ It also flapped its _____ Neera thought, "Oh, it must be _____ its mother." She opened the _____ of the cage. The parrot _____ away. Neera felt very happy.

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. mother, friend, sister | 7. bite, drink, eat |
| 2. caught, opened, thought | 8. loudly, quietly, deeply |
| 3. box, cage, room | 9. head, beak, wings |
| 4. sat, came, stood | 10. massing, singing, crying |
| 5. cloth, bread, paper | 11. floor, door, top |
| 6. to, on, in | 12. ran, walked, flew |

9. Let's Draw a Picture

Read the passage carefully and draw a picture.

There is a house in the centre of the page. It has four windows and a door. A bird is sitting on the roof of the house. A cat is sleeping outside the house. There is one tree on the left and another one on the right of the house. The tree on your left has a crow's nest with three eggs in it. A boy is sitting under the tree which is on your right. There are flower pots in front of the house.

10. A Bird

A bird came down the walk,
He did not know I saw ,
He bit an earth worm in halves
And ate the fellow raw

And then he drank a dew
From a nearby grass,
And then hopped sideways to the wall
To let a beetle pass

Questions

A Fill in the blanks with the words from the poem

- 1 The dew was on the _____
- 2 The bird had come down to the _____
- 3 He moved to let a _____ pass

B Answer the following questions

- 4 What did the bird eat?
- 5 How did he eat it?
- 6 What did he drink?
- 7 Name two insects from the poem
- 8 How did the bird give way to the beetle?

11. On a Farm

Long ago, everybody lived and worked on the land. There were many small farms all over the country. On these the farmer and all his family worked.

The corn they grew was used to make their bread. Animals on the farm provided their meat and their milk and then fats. From their skins the farmer made some of his family's clothing and footwear.

Some of the crops in the fields helped to make basket, mats and cloth needed in their homes.

The buildings of the farm were made from the trees on their land and so was the furniture.

Questions

A. Complete the following.

1. The farmer got his bread from _____.
2. The trees helped him to make _____ and _____.
3. The family's clothing came from animals' _____ and _____.

B. Find the words from the passage which mean .

4. supplied
5. group of parents and children
6. outer covering of animals

C. Say whether the following statements are true or false.

7. Only men worked on the farms. ()
8. Many years ago there were big farms all over the country. ()

9. Farmers lived on their farms. ()
10. Baskets and mats were made from some
of the crops in the field. ()

D. Answer the following questions.

11. Who worked on the farms?
12. How were the animals useful to the farmer? State
any three ways.

Questions

- A. You are in the stadium. You have to go to the Metro Cinema. Read the following directions and circle the correct words in the brackets.

On leaving the Stadium turn (left, right) on the Link Road and come directly to the Mahatma Gandhi Road. Ritu's house is on the (left, right). You will see the Public library on your (left, right). Leaving the Mahatma Gandhi Road turn (left, right) on the Tilak Marg. You will find the Metro Cinema on your (left, right).

- B. Read the statements carefully and with the help of the map write True or False.

6. Ritu's house is nearer to Modern School than to the Metro Cinema. ()
7. The Stadium is on the Tilak Marg. ()
8. To reach the Modern School Ritu has to take the School Road. ()
9. To see a film at the Metro Cinema, Ritu has to keep going on the Mahatma Gandhi Road till its end. ()
10. On her way to the Metro Cinema she can return her book at the library. ()

13. A Fishy Matter

Did you know that fish have ears? When a fish hears something like a voice or footsteps, it will swim to the bottom to be safe. Fish can hear well because they have good ears—one on each side of their head. But you can't see them from the outside, the way you can see a person's ears. What about their noses? Well, they do have noses, too. Usually fish have two nostrils on each side of their heads, and they can find food by smelling for it.

Questions

A. Choose the correct answer.

1. We know that a fish can hear because
 - A. we can see their ears
 - B. they swim to the bottom of the sea
 - C. they move when they hear a sound
2. The fish's ears are
 - A. small in size
 - B. hidden from view
 - C. shaped like human ears
3. Fish smell through their
 - A. nostrils
 - B. gills
 - C. mouth
4. Fish find their food by
 - A. hunting for it
 - B. seeing it
 - C. smelling for it

B From the passage find the words which mean :

- 5. the sound of someone coming
- 6. move in water
- 7. human being
- 8. normally

C From the passage find the opposite of these words.

- 9. top
- 10. unsafe
- 11. inside
- 12. lost

D Answer in short

- 13. Why does a fish swim to the bottom when it hears a sound?
- 14. How are the fish's ears different from a person's ?
- 15. How do fish find food in water ?

14. Report Card

Raghu is a student of Class IV. Look at his Report Card and notice his marks and grades in I and II Terminal Test in different subjects.

Subject	Maximum Marks	Ist Terminal Test	IInd Terminal Test
English	20	12	14
Hindi	30	15	17
Sanskrit	20	17	18
Maths	20	05	05
Science	20	07	07
General	20	10	12
Drawing	Gr	+ B Grade	A Grade
Music	Gr	A Grade	A Grade

Questions

A. Now answer the following questions

1. In which term did Raghu do better?
2. Which is his weakest subject?
3. In which subject did he get the highest marks?
4. In which subjects has Raghu improved his marks?
5. In which subjects has he shown no improvement?
6. Which subjects have only grades and not marks?
7. In which subject did Raghu get the same grade in both the Terminal Tests?
8. By how many marks did he improve in general science in the Second Term?

13. Complete the sentences

9. Raghu should give more attention to _____
and _____.
10. Raghu loves music. That is why he got _____
in both the terms.
11. Raghu has to study _____ subjects in Class IV.
12. The maximum marks in the Terminal Test for
each subject are _____.
13. Raghu's Report Card shows that he is _____
in languages.

15. Man in Space

For thousands of years people have been dreaming of travelling in space. It was only in April 1961 that Yuri Gagarin, a Russian, became the first man to orbit the Earth in space. A few years later, in July 1969, an American astronaut, Neil Armstrong, became the first person to set foot on the Moon.

In space there is no air to breathe. So astronauts must take air with them in their spacecraft. When they leave their spacecraft, they must put on a spacesuit. This supplies them with air and keeps their bodies at the right temperature.

Questions

A. Choose the correct answer

1. An astronaut travels in the
A air
B space
C sea
2. Neil Armstrong was
A a Russian
B a German
C an American
3. The first man landed on the moon in
A April 1969
B July 1969
C April 1961

B. Pick out the opposite of these words from the passage.

- A wrong,
- B last
- C. stay in

C. Answer the following questions briefly

- 7. Why do the astronauts take air with them into space?
- 8. Why do they wear a space suit? Give two points
- 9. Who was Yuri Gagarin?
- 10. What did Neil Armstrong do in the year 1969?

16. I Can Make a Riddle

I can make a riddle
Of a thing that covers me
It's something very special
And it's something you can see
It's waterproof, it grows, it feels
And when it breaks, itself it heals.
It's something I'm always in,
You've guessed it now? Of course
My skin!

Questions

A. Choose the correct Answer

1. In the poem what covers the poet is
 - A. a waterproof sheet
 - B. skin
 - C. clothes
2. Our skin can
 - A. only feel
 - B. only grow
 - C. grow, feel and get wet
3. A riddle is a
 - A. poem
 - B. puzzle
 - C. question
4. 'Special means '
 - A. common
 - B. usual
 - C. important

5. 'Breaks itself' means
- A. cuts
 - B. opens
 - C. changes
6. 'Heals' means
- A. joins
 - B. makes smooth
 - C. makes well

B. Answer the question in one sentence

7. What is the very special thing the poet is talking about in the poem?

17. Cats

A tiger is a cat. So is a lion, a leopard, a cheetah, a jaguar, a lynx, a panther and a puma. They are all big cats. All of them leap and run and pounce and snarl. Many climb trees. Many purr and mew. Many don't like to go into the water. They can see better at night than people can. They are among the fastest of furred animals.

They have five toes on their front paws and four on their back paws. They use their claws for climbing trees, catching food and protecting themselves against other animals.

(snarl – show the teeth and make an angry sound)

Questions

A. Answer the following questions.

1. Name five animals that belong to the cat family.
2. What do they use their claws for?
3. Name three sounds that they make.
4. The cat family can do something better than people. What is it?

B. Match the following.

A	B
5. claws	cat family
6. animals	sharp
7. panther	furred

C. Choose the correct answer.

8. 'Pounce' means .
A. to eat suddenly
B. to jump on suddenly
C. to sweep happily
9. When a lion is angry he
A. snarls
B. punts
C. mews
10. 'Protect' means
A. to hide
B. to guard
C. to show

18. Toy Land

A new toy shop has recently opened in your area. You have just received this price list from the shop on its opening day.

1. Handy Dandy -- musical rattle, easy to handle, fun to play with
Age (6 months -- 18 months)
Price: Rs. 65/-
2. Rumble Tumble -- Exciting fun of all sorts; Battery operated car with flashing lights and Bump N-Go action
Age (3 years -- 4 years) Price: Rs. 165/-
3. Power Man -- All little boys want to grow up to be a hero like Power-Man. Have the Power-Man collection with you.
Age (7 years -- 8 years) Price: Rs. 90/-
4. Abra-K-Dabra -- Get into the world of magic with this exciting game.
Age (8 years -- 9 years) Price: Rs. 125/-
5. Word Tombola -- Learn how to spell well while having fun.
Age (9 years -- 10 years) Price: Rs. 85/-

Questions

A. Choose the correct answer.

1. Ravi is celebrating his 8th birthday. You would buy him .
A. Abra-K-Dabra
B. Handy-Dandy
C. Rumble Tumble

2. You have Rs 100 with you. For your 8-month old cousin what can you buy ?
 - A. Rumble Tumble
 - B. Power-Man collection
 - C. Handy-Dandy
3. Your friend is weak in spelling. What game could you gift him on his birthday?
 - A. Handy-Dandy
 - B. Rumble-Tumble
 - C. Word Tombola

B. Give a one-word answer.

4. Which toy costs the most?
5. Which toy is specially for babies?
6. Which toy has blinking lights?
7. Which game takes you into the world of magic?
8. Which toy consists of a series of heroes?

C. Mark True or False.

10. Rumble-Tumble is suitable for children in the age group of 8 years - 9 years ()
11. you can learn how to improve your spelling with Handy-Dandy ()
12. A Power-Man is a battery operated toy. ()
13. Your 10-month old brother would enjoy holding Handy-Dandy. ()
14. Item no. 4 in the price list is something with which you can fool the people. ()

19. A Letter

27, Moura Street
Calcutta - 700 016
15.11.1997

Dear Ravi,

How are you ? It must be very cold in Shimla ! I hope you are having lots of fun. Calcutta is very humid these days – because it is close to the sea. Winter seems to be far away. Who would say that it is the month of November here ! Even these days fans are needed. I wish I could come to Shimla ! I remember last year when I had come to your house in winter. One day your father's jeep got stuck in the road due to the heavy snow. We got out of the jeep and hit snowballs at each other and made a snowman. I am really looking forward to going to a hill station soon.

Give my regards to your parents and love to Akshay Bhैया. Write to me soon.

Your loving friend

Rahul

Questions

A. Choose the correct answer.

1. Ravi's father's jeep got stuck in
A. mud
B. sand
C. snow

2. Rahul visited Shimla during
A the rains
B winter
C summer

B. Write True or False against the statements.

3. Ravi wants to go to Shimla ()
4. Calcutta was very cold when the letter was written ()
5. Ravi has a brother ()
6. Rahul has been to Shimla before ()

C. Find the word from the passage which means :

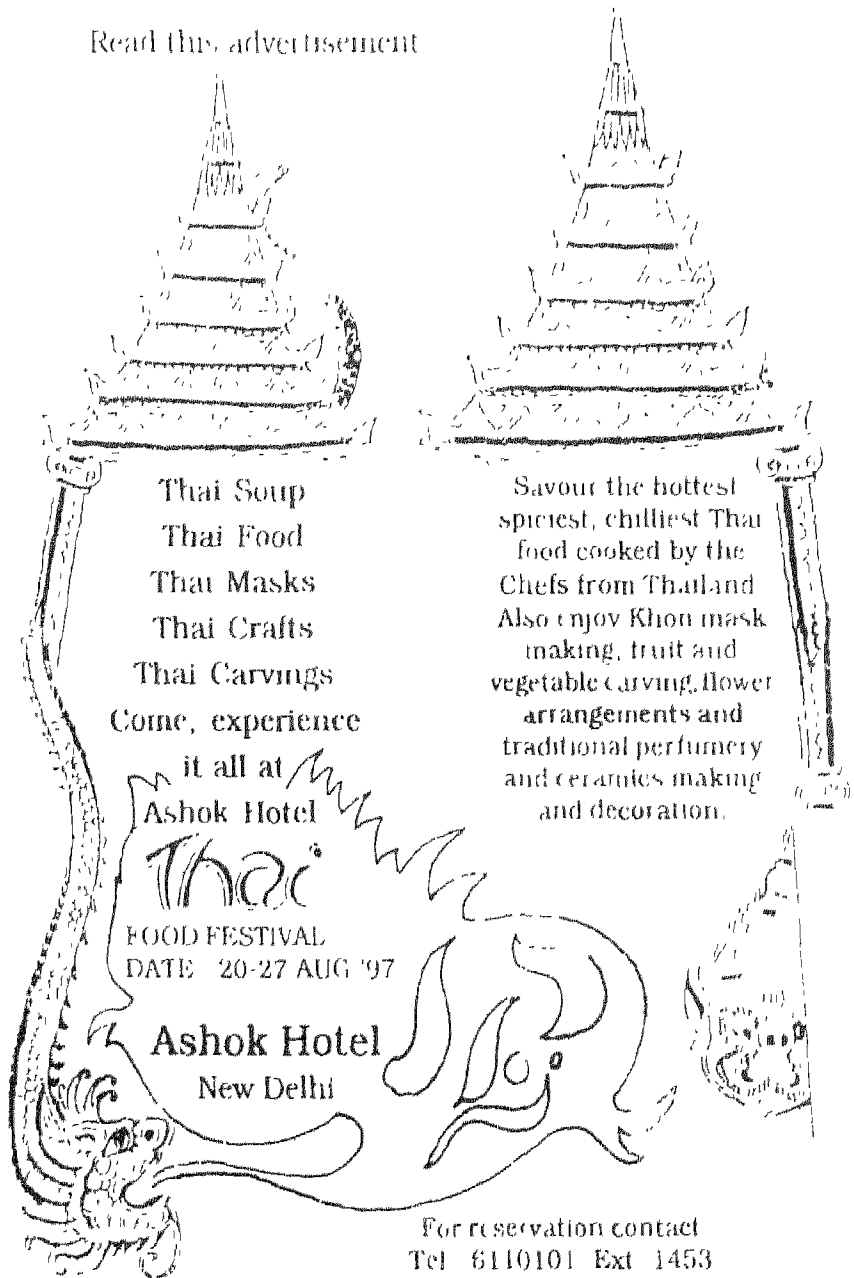
7. damp weather
8. to keep in mind
9. unable to move

D. Answer these questions :

10. In which city does Rahul live?
11. Why does Rahul want to go to Shimla? Give two reasons
12. What did he do last year in Shimla with Ravi ?
13. Why is Calcutta humid ?

20. Thai Food Festival

Read this advertisement



Thai Soup
Thai Food
Thai Masks
Thai Crafts
Thai Carvings
Come, experience
it all at
Ashok Hotel

Thai
FOOD FESTIVAL
DATE 20-27 AUG '97

Ashok Hotel
New Delhi

Savour the hottest
spiciest, chilliest Thai
food cooked by the
Chefs from Thailand
Also enjoy Khon mask
making, fruit and
vegetable carving, flower
arrangements and
traditional perfumery
and ceramics making
and decoration.

For reservation contact
Tel 6110101 Ext 1453

Questions

A. Fill in the Blanks

1. This advertisement is about _____
2. The festival was held at _____.
3. The Ashok Hotel is in _____
4. For reserving your place you could contact the phone no. _____
5. The Festival was held from _____ August to _____ August, 1997

B. Say True or False.

6. This piece is a story of Thailand. ()
7. The advertisement shows the picture of a dragon. ()
8. At the Thai Festival you could see flower arrangements also ()
9. You could also watch Thai dance. ()
10. At the festival you can see carved fruit and vegetables ()

C. Answer these questions

11. Name the five things you could experience at the Thai Food Festival
12. Who cooked the Thai food?
13. What is Thai food like? Pick out three words which describe the food :

14. You could see the making of Thai masks at the festival. What are these masks called?

15. Pick out any two things that you could enjoy at the festival.

21. The Things I Love in Nature

I love to see the birds fly
Across the brilliant sky,
I love to sit on the grass so green,
Better than sitting behind a screen

I love the roses red
That grow in my garden bed.
I love the humming of a bee,
How nicely it hums although it's wee

I love the star light,
Although it's not so bright.
I love the bubbling of the spring,
Oh how I love these things!

(*Spring* - a place where there is water coming up from the ground)

Questions

- A. Choose the correct words from the box and fill in the blanks. The first one is done for you.

The poet loves to watch the birds flying in the sky. He also 1. _____ sitting in the green grass instead of sitting in his 2. _____. He loves beautiful 3. _____ roses in his garden and is attracted to the 4. _____ sound made by the bee. Even though the stars give a 5. _____ light he loves to look at them. The poet also enjoys looking at the 6. _____ which makes a bubbling sound as it 7. _____ along.

house	enjoy	humming
dirt	red	spring
living	flower	

B. Find the words from the poem which means:

8. bright and shiny (stanza 1)
 9. very small (stanza 2)
 10. continuous sound (stanza 2)

C. Read these sentences and write True or False.

11. The poet does not like to sit inside the house. ()
 12. The bee is a small insect. ()
 13. The bee makes a humming sound. ()
 14. The spring makes a humming sound. ()
 15. The poet loves the roses growing in the flower pots. ()

22. Magic Air

All living beings breathe air. It is all around us. We cannot live without it. We can feel it though we can't see it. But this 'Magic Air' can also be full of dust, germs or gas. Then it is dangerous. We need to let fresh air come into our bedroom when we sleep by letting the windows remain open. Do you sleep with your windows open? In rooms that have no windows to open, there are fans which keep the air moving and fresh. You can use this magic air to blow a cool breeze when you are feeling hot. Or in the winter when your hands are too cold you can blow warm breath on them to make them feel better. The magic air is very wonderful — you should thank God for this gift of air.

Questions

A. Read the passage carefully and say whether the statements are True or False.

1. Some living beings breathe air. ()
2. Air is called 'magic' because it cannot be seen. ()
3. It is not necessary to have fresh air when we sleep. ()
4. Dust and germs make the air polluted. ()
5. In winter we blow into our hands to keep them dry. ()

B. Find words from the passage which mean :

6. Gentle air
7. Harmful

- 8. Mysterious
- 9. Marvellous

. Choose the correct answer.

- 10. Air which is dangerous is full of
 - A. pollution
 - B. magic
 - C. freshness
- 11. Bedroom windows should remain open when you sleep, to
 - A. let out fresh air
 - B. let in fresh air
 - C. keep the room cool
- 12. Air is a wonderful gift of God because
 - A. it is fresh
 - B. it is cool
 - C. we cannot live without it

23. The Old Man, the Boy and the Donkey

One day an old man and his son were taking their donkey to the market to sell it. Soon they met a group of young girls. They said, "How stupid you are! Why are you walking when you can ride your donkey?" The old man liked to please people so he asked his son to get on his donkey.

Soon they met a group of old men who said, "Why doesn't the boy let his old father ride the donkey?" The old man told his son to get down.

After some time they met a group of women who asked, "Why don't you both ride the donkey?" At this the boy and his father rode the donkey into town. There a lady stopped them, "How cruel you are!" said the lady. "How can you ride the weak animal like yours?" you should carry the donkey."

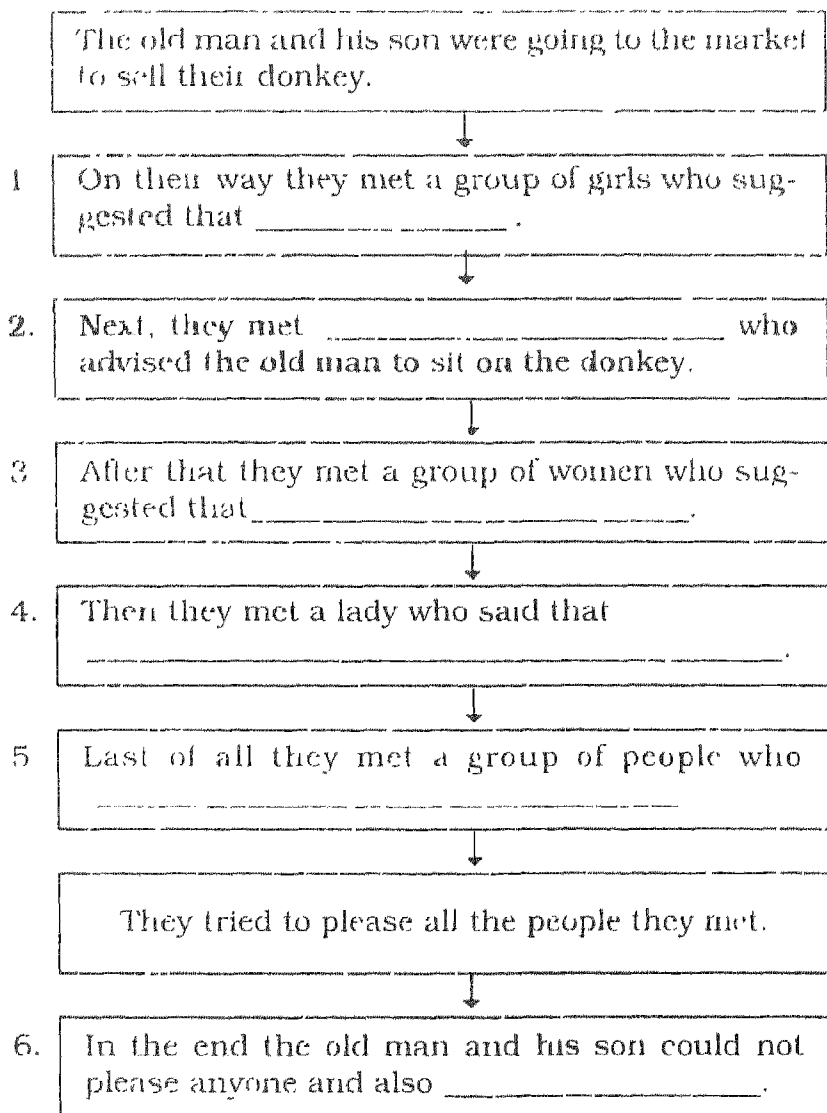
Now the old man and his son tied the donkey's legs to a pole and carried it into town.

Soon they came to a bridge. Many people laughed at them. This frightened the donkey, who broke the rope and fell into the river.

The poor old man tried to please every one but did not please anyone -- and he also lost his donkey.

Questions

A. Complete the flow chart



B. Write True or False.

7. The old men were unhappy to see the boy riding the donkey ()
8. The old man lost his donkey due to no fault of his. ()
9. The moral of the story is : You must please everyone ()

C. Complete the following :

10. The lady thought that the old man and his son were cruel because _____

11. The people laughed at them when they came to the bridge because _____

12. The old man lost his donkey because _____

D. Answer briefly.

13. Find a word from the story which means the opposite of 'strong'.
14. Find a word from the story which means the opposite of 'clever'.
15. Find a word from the story which means a long, round piece of 'wood'.

24. Football

Football is one of the most popular games in the world. It developed from the very old game of soccer which was played in Great Britain. Now football is played in the United States, Canada, Brazil, India and many other countries.

The game of football is played between two teams. Each team has eleven players. One of them is the goal keeper. A football field is about 100 metres long and the goals are at the opposite ends of the field. The players of one team try to kick the ball into the goal of the other team. The players of the other team try to stop them by kicking the ball away from them. The goalkeeper defends the goal and tries to stop the ball from entering the goal. The team which is able to kick the ball into the opposite goal more often wins the game.

A kind of football called Rugby is played in Britain. In this game, the ball is not round but oval, and each team has 15 players.

Questions

A. Choose the correct answer.

1. In which country was football first played?
 - A. The United States
 - B. India
 - C. Great Britain
 - D. Brazil
2. How many teams play football?
 - A. One
 - B. Two

- C. Three
 - D. Four
- 3. In this game the ball is kicked into the other team's
 - A. court
 - B. field
 - C. net
 - D. goal
- 4. How many players are there in each team in a game of football?
 - A. eleven
 - B. twelve
 - C. seven
 - D. fifteen
- 5. Kicking the ball in the opposite goal means
 - A. throwing the ball
 - B. scoring a point
 - C. defending the goal
 - D. stopping the goalkeeper

B Say True or False

- 6. Soccer is a very old game which was played in the United States. ()
- 7. The goalkeeper tries to kick the ball into the goal. ()
- 8. In Rugby the ball is oval-shaped. ()
- 9. The two goals are near each other in the field. ()
- 10. The team which scores more goals wins. ()

C. Answer the following questions.

- 11. How is Rugby different from football? Pick out two differences?

12 Which game developed into modern football?

13 What should a team do to win the game?

14 What is the duty of the goalkeeper?

15 Pick out the words from the passage which means ?

a guard or protect _____

b. egg-shaped _____

25. Japan

In Japan the whole year is a time of fun and festival for the children. In the spring the countryside and the hills are full of small streams. The young boys love fishing in them. Summer brings many festivals. One festival is 'Tanabata.' On this day children decorate bamboo branches with coloured paper and pray for a good handwriting. Autumn brings the festival of thanksgiving for good crops. People make small shrines called 'Mikoshi' and take them in a procession through the streets. Children enjoy carrying the shrines turn by turn. They believe that this would bring good luck to homes and shops. In Northern Japan, where there is snow all round in winter, the Japanese celebrate the festival of 'Kamakura'. They make snow huts. Children invite their friends and offer them oranges and glasses of warm sweet rice wine.

Questions

A. Fill in the blanks.

1. Many small streams flow in the countryside and hills in the _____ season.
2. Young boys use the streams for _____.
3. Thanks are given to the gods for _____.
4. In winters there is snow everywhere in _____.
5. In the festival of Kamakura the Japanese make _____.

B. Fill up this table

<i>Season</i>	<i>Festival</i>	<i>How they celebrate</i>
Summer	6	7
8	Festival of Thanksgiving	9
10	11.	Make snow huts and invite friends

C. Pick out from the passage the word which means :

12. Rural areas _____
13. To make something more beautiful _____
14. A crowd of people moving forward in an orderly way _____
15. Altars on which god's statues are set up _____

D. Answer these questions

16. In what way do the young boys enjoy the spring season in Japan ?
17. What do the children pray for in the festival of Tanabata ?
18. What do the Japanese believe about Mikoshi ?
19. What role do the children play in the festival of thanksgiving ?
20. What two things do the children offer to their friends in the snow huts ?

ANSWERS

ANSWERS

1 Subbu

- 1 A
- 2 C
- 3 loving mother
- 4 ten rupees
- 5 hairy bear
- 6 take care
- 7 visited
- 8 mirror
- 9 A young man
- 10 His mother
- 11 To have a good shave
- 12 He did not have a shave
for a long time / he had
a beard

2. Rancho at School

- 1 monkey
- 2 children
- 3 chairs
- 4 book
- 5 picked
- 6 pages
- 7 read
- 8 satree
- 9 laugh
- 10 jumped

3 Jumble Tumble

- 1 Mohan was going to school.
- 2 On the way he found a
purse lying on the road

- 3 He picked up the purse
and opened it
- 4 There was a hundred
rupee note in it
- 5 He thought of keeping it
with him
- 6 'It's not my money'
Mohan said to himself
- 7 Just then an old man
passed by
- 8 The old man was looking
for something
- 9 'Is this yours ?' asked
Mohan
- 10 The old man said 'yes'
- 11 Mohan gave the purse to
him
- 12 The old man thanked him

4. Pingu

- 1 A
- 2 C
- 3 C
- 4 B
- 5 A
- 6 penguin
- 7 break fast
- 8 floor
- 9 plates, glasses
- 10 mother, father
- 11 house, garden
- 12 The food fell down and
the plates and glasses
broke
13. She beat him

- 14 He shouted at him.
- 15 He ran out of the house
(into the garden)
- 16 Not to be naughty again

5 My Classroom

- 1 north
- 2 east
- 3 east
- 4 north
- 5 north
- 6 west
- 7 False
- 8 True
- 9 False
- 10 False
- 11 True
- 12 False

6. Bubble Trouble

1. B
2. A
3. C
4. B
5. A
6. soapy
7. blow
8. burst
9. float
10. chew
11. soapy water
12. softly
13. float, burst
14. large

15. blow
16. lift
17. gently

7. Weather Report

1. A
2. B
3. C
4. 27.6°C
5. 16.1°C
6. Celsius
7. sunny
8. Sun
9. 9.02 a.m.
10. 6.29 p.m.
11. Page 2
12. 5.36 p.m.
13. 6.34 a.m.
14. mist
15. humidity

8 Neera and the Parrot

1. sister
2. caught
3. cage
4. came
5. bread
6. to
7. drink
8. loudly
9. wings
10. missing
11. door
12. flew

9. Let Us Draw

A picture similar to this



10. A Bird

1. grass
2. walk
3. beetle
4. an earth worm
5. raw
6. dew
7. earth worm and beetle
8. It hopped sideways (to the wall)

11. On a Farm

1. Corn
2. buildings and furniture
3. skin and crops
4. provided
5. family
6. skin
7. False
8. False
9. True
10. True
11. The farmer and all his family
12. They provided meat, milk, fats, clothing and footwear. (Any three of these)

12. On Your Way

- A
1. left
 2. left
 3. left
 4. right
 5. left

- B
6. True
 7. False
 8. True
 9. False
 10. True

13. A Fishy Matter

1. C
2. B
3. A
4. C
5. foolstep
6. swim
7. person
8. usually
9. bottom
10. safe
11. outside
12. find
13. to be safe
14. because they cannot be seen from the outside
15. by smelling for it

14. Report Card

1. Hind Term
2. Maths
3. Sanskrit
4. Eng., Hindi, Sst. and Gen. Sc.
5. Maths and S St
6. Music and drawing
7. Music
8. 12
9. S St. and maths

10. A grade

11. 8

12. 20

13. good/better

15. Man in Space

1. B

2. C

3. B

4. night

5. first

6. leave

7. because there is no air
to breathe

8. because it supplies
them with air and keeps
their bodies at the right
temperature

9. a Russian (astronaut) /
the first man to orbit the
earth

10. set foot on the moon for
the first time

16. I Can Make a Riddle

1. B

2. C

3. B

4. C

5. A

6. C

7. skin

17. Cats

1. panther, lion, leopard,
cheetah, puma, lynx,
tiger (any five)

2. for climbing trees, catch-
ing food, or protecting
themselves against other
animals

3. snarl, purr, mew

4. The cat family can see
better at night than
people can.

5. sharp

6. furred

7. cat family

8. B

9. A

10. B

18. Toy Land

1. A

2. B

3. C

4. Rumble/Tumble

5. Handy Dandy

6. Rumble/Tumble

7. Abra-K-Dabra

8. Power-Man

9. False

10. False

11. False

12. True

13. True

19. A Letter

- 1 C
- 2 B
- 3 False
4. False
5. True
- 6 True
- 7 Humid
8. Remember
- 9 Stuck
- 10 Calcutta
11. a - he had fun in Shunla during last winter.
b - he wants to get away from the heat of Calcutta
12. hit snowballs and made a snowman.
13. because it is close to the sea

20. Thai Food Festival

- 1 Thai Food Festival
- 2 Ashok Hotel
- 3 New Delhi
- 4 6110101 Extn 1453
- 5 20 27
- 6 F
7. T
- 8 T
- 9 F
- 10 T

11. Thai soup, Thai food, Thai masks, Thai craft, Thai carving
12. Chefs from Thailand
- 13 Chillest, hottest, spiciest
- 14 Khon (masks) ,
- 15 Khon masks, fruit and vegetable carving flower arrangement, traditional perfumery, ceramics and decoration. (Any two)

21. The Things I Love in Nature

1. enjoys
2. house
- 3 red
- 4 humming
- 5 dim
6. spring
- 7 flows
- 8 brilliant
- 9 wee
- 10 humming
- 11 T
- 12 T
- 13 F
- 14 F
15. F

22. Magic Air

- 1 False

2. True
3. False
4. True
5. False
6. breeze
7. dangerous
8. magic
9. wonderful
10. A
11. B
12. C

23. The Old Man, the Boy and the Donkey

1. the boy should sit on the donkey.
2. a group of old men
3. both should sit on the donkey
4. they should carry the donkey
5. laughed at them
6. lost their donkey
7. True
8. False
9. False
10. they were both sitting on their weak donkey
11. they were carrying their donkey on a pole
12. of his foolishness
or
he tried to please everyone
or
he did not use his own common sense

13. weak
14. stupid
15. pole

24. Football

1. C
2. B
3. D
4. A
5. B
6. False
7. False
8. True
9. False
10. True
11. The ball is oval in rugby and there are 15 players in the team.
12. Soccer
13. to kick the ball more often into the opposite goal
14. to defend the goal
15. (a) defend
(b) oval

25. Japan

1. Spring
2. fishing
3. good crops
4. Northern Japan
5. snow huts
6. Tanahata
7. decorate ha
with colour

8. autumn
9. make small shrine
called Mikoshi and take
them in a procession
10. Winter
11. Kamakura
12. countryside
13. decorate
14. procession
15. shrines
16. they go fishing in small
streams
17. for a good handwriting
18. I would bring good luck
to homes and shops
19. they carry the shrines
turn by turn
20. oranges and warm sweet
rice wine.

